News Release

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Updated Results for Investigational Therapy Tepotinib Presented at WCLC 2019

- **Results include progression-free survival and overall survival data from Phase Ib/II INSIGHT study**
- **Phase II INSIGHT 2 study now open for enrollment for patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutation and select MET dysregulations**

Darmstadt, Germany, September 9, 2019 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, which operates its biopharmaceutical business as EMD Serono in the US and Canada, announced today important milestones for two combination studies of the investigational therapy tepotinib* in locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutation and select MET dysregulations. These include progression-free survival (PFS) and overall survival (OS) data from the Phase Ib/II INSIGHT study of tepotinib plus the EGFR inhibitor gefitinib, and an update that the Phase II INSIGHT 2 study of tepotinib plus tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) osimertinib is now open for enrollment. Tepotinib, discovered in-house at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is an investigational oral MET inhibitor that underscores Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany's strategic focus on delivering innovative precision medicines to patients with cancer.

"The consistency of results across the clinical development program for tepotinib continues to highlight the potential for this investigational therapy in targeting select NSCLC mutations and alterations that are associated with aggressive tumor behavior and poor clinical prognosis," said Luciano Rossetti, Global Head of Research & Development for the Biopharma business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. "We are committed to progressing tepotinib as part of our precision medicine

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strategy and our work to deliver new therapeutic options for people living with difficult-to-treat cancers, including NSCLC."

Data were presented on September 8 at the 2019 World Conference on Lung Cancer hosted by the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (#WCLC19), including 18-month follow-up data from the Phase Ib/II INSIGHT study evaluating tepotinib in combination with the EGFR inhibitor gefitinib compared with standard chemotherapy in patients with *EGFR*-mutant locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC with MET protein overexpression or *MET* gene amplification who had disease progression after receiving an EGFR TKI. These results include updated PFS data as well as the first OS data for patients in both the MET overexpression and *MET* amplification cohorts of this study. These data will be submitted for future publication in a medical journal.

Additionally, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany today announced it is enrolling patients in the Phase II INSIGHT 2 study investigating tepotinib in combination with the TKI osimertinib in patients with *EGFR*-mutated, MET-amplified, locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC with acquired resistance to prior EGFR TKI therapy. The decision to initiate the INSIGHT 2 study is based on the encouraging findings seen in the Phase Ib/II INSIGHT study. Early data from this study presented at the 2019 American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting demonstrated clinical anti-tumor activity for the combination of tepotinib plus gefitinib compared with chemotherapy in patients with *EGFR*-mutant locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC with *MET* gene amplification who had disease progression after receiving an EGFR TKI, based on both investigator assessment and independent review committee assessment. Related grade ≥3 treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) were reported in 6 (50.0%) patients treated with tepotinib plus gefitinib and 5 (71.4%) patients receiving chemotherapy. The most common related TEAEs in the tepotinib plus gefitinib arm were diarrhea (50.0%) and amylase increased (41.7%) and in the chemotherapy arm were anemia (57.1%), white blood cell count decreased (57.1%), neutrophil count decreased (57.1%) and nausea (42.9%). No new safety signals were observed.[1] These data also indicate that *MET* amplification may be a biomarker predictive of response to tepotinib.

News Release

Tepotinib is also being investigated in the ongoing Phase II VISION study, evaluating tepotinib in advanced or metastatic NSCLC patients harboring *MET* alterations (*MET* exon 14 skipping alterations and *MET* amplifications) as monotherapy. Results from this study were presented in an oral presentation at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting.[2] In March 2018, tepotinib's potential was recognized by the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), which granted SAKIGAKE 'fast-track' designation for tepotinib in advanced NSCLC harboring *MET* exon 14 skipping alterations.

For more information on these studies, visit ClinicalTrials.gov and search identifier NCT01982955 for the Phase Ib/II INSIGHT study, NCT03940703 for the Phase II INSIGHT 2 study or NCT02864992 for the Phase II VISION study.

[*]*Tepotinib is the recommended International Nonproprietary Name (INN) for the MET kinase inhibitor (MSC2156119J). Tepotinib is currently under clinical investigation and not approved for any use anywhere in the world.*

About Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer
With 2 million cases diagnosed annually, lung cancer (including trachea, bronchus and lung) is the most common type of cancer worldwide, and the leading cause of cancer-related death, with 1.7 million mortality cases worldwide.[3] Alterations of the MET signaling pathway, including *MET* exon 14 skipping alterations and *MET* amplifications, occur in 3-5% of NSCLC cases.[4-6]

About Tepotinib
Tepotinib, discovered in-house at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is an investigational oral MET inhibitor that is designed to inhibit the oncogenic MET receptor signaling caused by *MET* (gene) alterations, including both *MET* exon 14 skipping alterations and *MET* amplifications, or MET protein overexpression. It has been designed to have a highly selective mechanism of action, with the potential to improve outcomes in aggressive tumors that have a poor prognosis and harbor these specific alterations.

Tepotinib is currently being investigated in NSCLC and Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is actively assessing the potential of investigating tepotinib in combination with novel therapies and in other tumor indications.

References
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About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

News Release

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 52,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From advancing gene editing technologies and discovering unique ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling the intelligence of devices – the company is everywhere. In 2018, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 14.8 billion in 66 countries.

The company holds the global rights to the name and trademark "Merck" internationally. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operate as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Performance Materials. Since its founding 1668, scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the company's technological and scientific advances. To this day, the founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company.